

### **Remarks**

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of May 26, 2010 is respectfully requested.

In order to make necessary editorial corrections, the entire specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised. As the revisions are quite extensive, the amendments to the specification and abstract have been incorporated into the attached substitute specification and abstract. For the Examiner's benefit, a marked-up copy of the specification indicating the changes made thereto is also enclosed. No new matter has been added by the revisions. Entry of the substitute specification is thus respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 17-20, 22-24, 26, 27, and 38-41 as being anticipated by the Narita reference (WO 2003/038152); rejected claims 1 and 17 as being anticipated by the Tuck reference (USP 4,417,173); rejected claim 3 as being anticipated by or obvious in view of the Tuck reference; and rejected claims 3, 5, and 25 as being anticipated by or obvious in view of the Narita reference. However, the Examiner also indicated that dependent claims 7 and 21 contained allowable subject matter. As a result, the claims have now been amended as indicated above. For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the amended claims are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 1 has now been amended so as to include the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 7 and intervening claim 6, while independent claim 17 has now been amended so as to include the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 21 and intervening claim 19. In view of these amendments, claims 6, 7, 19, and 21 have now been cancelled.

In addition, independent claim 2 has also now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 7 and intervening claim 6, and dependent claim 27 has therefore been cancelled. Furthermore, independent claim 18 has now been amended to include the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 21 and intervening claim 19. Finally, inconsistent claims 23, 24, 40, and 41, as well as non-elected claims 8-16 and 28-37 have also now been cancelled. In view of these amendments and the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter on page 5 of the outstanding Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 2, 17, and 18, as well as the claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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